

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

PAYING TRIBUTE TO HENRIETTA
FORE

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 24, 2007

Mr. PORTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor my fellow Nevadan and dear friend, Henrietta Fore, for her professional success and service to our country.

Henrietta H. Fore was designated by President George W. Bush as Acting Administrator of USAID and designated by Secretary Condoleezza Rice as Acting Director of U.S. Foreign Assistance on May 7, 2007. While serving in these capacities, she remains Under Secretary of State for Management, a position she has held since 2005. Prior to her roll as Acting Director of U.S. Foreign Assistance and Acting Administrator of USAID, Henrietta served as the 37th Director of the United States Mint in the Department of Treasury from 2001–2005. In this capacity, she managed the world's largest manufacturer of coins, medals, and coin products. Henrietta has also served in the State Department as the Assistant Administrator for Private Enterprise in the U.S. Agency for International Development and then Assistant Administrator for Asia between 1989–1993.

Prior to her career in government, Henrietta was an extremely successful businesswoman and served on numerous public boards and held leadership position in a number of non-profit organizations. Henrietta has also enjoyed a variety of academic successes. She earned a Bachelor of Arts in History from Wellesley College and a Master of Science in Public Administration from the University of Northern Colorado. She has also studied International Politics at Oxford University and studied at Stanford University Graduate School of Business.

In addition, over the course of her long and distinguished career, Henrietta has earned a number of accolades. In 1997, the State of the World Forum recognized Henrietta with the Women Redefining Leadership Award. In 2004 she was honored with the Alumnae Award from the University of Northern Colorado and in 2006 she received the Alumnae Award from the Baldwin School.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to honor my good friend Henrietta Fore. She has truly made the great state of Nevada proud. I congratulate her for her personal and professional success and wish her the best with her new appointment as Director of the United States Agency for International Development.

IN HONOR OF PASTOR CALVIN C.
BROWN

HON. JASON ALTMIRE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 24, 2007

Mr. ALTMIRE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Pastor Calvin C. Brown. Pastor Brown has served as the pastor for the Tabernacle Baptist Church in Beaver Falls for the past 46 years. During his years of service to the community, he has become a well known and beloved church leader for the residents of Beaver Falls and families throughout the region.

Throughout his illustrious career, Pastor Brown brought hope to many by starting ministries and preaching across the country. He has been an exceptional citizen within his home community where he worked tirelessly to help others who are less fortunate. His accomplishments include working with the Housing Authority of Beaver County to locate homes for those in need, serving as chaplain for the local sheriff's department in Beaver Falls, and performing marriage ceremonies for countless couples. Local residents often speak with Pastor Brown on his regular walks around town, where he warmly greets others and always lifts their spirits.

I want to commend Pastor Brown for his commitment to the community of Beaver Falls as a pastor, brother, friend, and confidant. I congratulate him on his career and wish him all the best in his retirement.

THE CAMPAIGN EXPENDITURE TRANSPARENCY ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 23, 2007

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join my colleague Representative ADAM SCHIFF in supporting H.R. 2630, the Campaign Expenditure Transparency Act.

By ending the practice of making campaign payments to a candidate or Federal officeholder's spouse and by requiring the disclosure of any payments made to other family members, we can eliminate the perception that campaign payments are a means for converting campaign funds to the family's personal use. While I support going one step further to prohibit the same payments to immediate family members, and have introduced legislation to do so, I am pleased to lend my support to H.R. 2630, which takes us in the right direction.

Specifically, H.R. 2630 would prohibit the campaign from compensating the spouse of

the candidate. The prohibition would create an exception for reimbursements on travel, and an exception for nominal reimbursements up to \$500 in a calendar year. The bill also requires disclosure to the Federal Election Commission, FEC, of all reimbursements.

H.R. 2630 would also require disclosure to the FEC of payments to immediate family members of the candidate or Federal officeholder. The prohibition and disclosure requirements would also apply to businesses where the spouse or family member is an officer or director of the business. Penalty for violation of these provisions would be imposed on the candidate or officeholder.

Numerous Members of Congress employ their spouses and family members for campaign activity without abusing the system. However, the practice of paying spouses and family members creates the potential for campaign finance and ethics abuses. If a payment to a spouse becomes part of the Member's family income, the Member, for all practical purposes, is receiving a direct personal financial benefit of campaign funds.

I believe it is our responsibility to close the gaps in our laws and in our rules that have been exposed and to restore the confidence of the American people in their elected officials.

H.R. 2630 moves us in the direction of increased transparency and I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to join me in supporting the legislation.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TIMOTHY V. JOHNSON

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 24, 2007

Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois. Madam Speaker, unfortunately yesterday, July 23, 2007, I was unable to cast my votes on H.R. 404, H. Res. 553, H. Res. 519, and the Previous Question on H. Res. 558 and wish the record to reflect my intentions had I been able to vote.

Had I been present for rollcall No. 687 on suspending the rules and passing H.R. 404, the Federal Customer Service Enhancement Act, I would have voted "yea."

Had I been present for rollcall No. 688 on suspending the rules and passing H. Res. 553, Mourning the passing of Lady Bird Johnson, I would have voted "yea."

Had I been present for rollcall No. 689 on suspending the rules and passing H. Res. 519, Honoring the life and accomplishments of Tom Lea on the 100th anniversary of his birth, I would have voted "yea."

Had I been present for rollcall No. 690 on Ordering the Previous Question on H. Res. 558, providing for consideration of H.R. 3074, the Departments of Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development, and related agencies, FY 2008, I would have voted "nay."

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

TRIBUTE TO LARY BURGETT

HON. ROBERT E. (BUD) CRAMER, JR.

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 24, 2007

Mr. CRAMER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Lary Burgett for receiving the 2006 Isaac M. Cline Award from the National Weather Service. The Cline Award is the highest honor the National Weather Service can bestow upon its employees. Mr. Burgett is the third local recipient of this award since the Huntsville Weather Forecasting Office was established in 2003.

The Isaac M. Cline Award is presented each year to individuals and teams that have made significant contributions in support of the National Weather Service's strategic and operational plans. Mr. Burgett was awarded the Cline Award for maintaining a high level of performance in North Alabama throughout the year.

Madam Speaker, the Tennessee Valley has a weather pattern much different from the rest of the nation. In 2002, the National Weather Service established a Weather Forecasting Office in Huntsville in order to track and predict this region's volatile weather systems. Mr. Burgett is one of the original employees of Huntsville's WFO who also worked at the previous Huntsville Weather Service Office. His knowledge and experience was critical during the transition and start-up of our WFO. He has continued his level of professionalism for over twenty-nine years.

Madam Speaker, the employees of the Huntsville Weather Forecasting Office are gathering today to recognize and celebrate Mr. Burgett for receiving the 2006 Isaac M. Cline Award. I rise today to join in their celebration and to congratulate Lary Burgett on this honor.

TRIBUTE TO THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF MURRAY COUNTY

HON. TIMOTHY J. WALZ

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 24, 2007

Mr. WALZ of Minnesota. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Murray County, Minnesota on its sesquicentennial anniversary and to commemorate the celebration that will be taking place July 27–29, 2007 to recognize the 150th anniversary of the founding of Murray County.

Murray County was founded in 1857 and named after William Pitt Murray, a political leader in Minnesota at the time. However, the roots of Murray County go back to 1833, when the American Fur Company built a trading post on the edge of Bear Lake.

This trading post was the first settlement in what would become Murray County. It was soon joined by the county's first bank, hotel, store, and post office. And even more impressive is that everyone of these buildings were constructed on the plains of western Minnesota before one single building was built on the future sites of Minneapolis and St. Paul.

Throughout its 150-year history, Murray County has been an outstanding example of the innovation and sense of community that its founders brought to the Minnesota prairie. I

congratulate the residents of Murray County on 150 years of success and wish them a bright future.

TRIBUTE TO THE CROATIAN SONS LODGE NUMBER 170

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKEY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 24, 2007

Mr. VISCLOSKEY. Madam Speaker, it is my distinct honor to congratulate the Croatian Sons Lodge Number 170 of the Croatian Fraternal Union for reaching a momentous milestone, its 100th Anniversary. As is their annual tradition, the lodge will take this opportunity to celebrate with a Golden Member banquet, which will take place on Sunday, August 12, 2007.

This year, the Croatian Fraternal Union will hold this gala event at the Croatian Center in Merrillville, Indiana. Traditionally, the anniversary celebration includes a ceremonial appreciation of the Union's Golden Members, those individuals who have achieved 50 years of membership. This year's Golden Members include: Judith Marie Brefeld, Geraldine Brklevich, Shirley Bronikowski, Esther M. Fadell, Antone J. Giorgi, Joseph L. Haralovich, Madelin Kazmier, Juliana H. King, George Kirincic, Michael Kuchaes, Jr., Judith Kathleen Lavery, Frank Joseph Mosca, Sr., William Pulford, Elizabeth J. Sedey, Stevan J. Trtan, Phyllis M. Vician, Dean J. Wantland, Joseph Winkler, and Angela A. Yelusich.

These faithful and devoted individuals share this esteemed tribute with over 400 other Golden Members who have previously attained this prestigious designation.

This memorable day will begin with a morning mass at the Croatian Center's gazebo with the Reverend Father Stephen Loncar officiating. The Saint George Tamburitians from Cokeburg, Pennsylvania will perform at the mass, which will be followed by a gala event and formal dinner featuring the DUNAV Orchestra.

Madam Speaker, I urge you and my other distinguished colleagues to join me in commending Lodge President Betty Morgavan and all the other members of the Croatian Fraternal Union Lodge Number 170 for their loyalty and radiant display of passion for their ethnicity. The Croatian community has played a key role in elevating the quality of life and culture of Northwest Indiana. It is my hope that this year will bring happiness, good health, and success for all members of the Croatian community and their families.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TERRY EVERETT

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 24, 2007

Mr. EVERETT. Madam Speaker, during consideration of the Labor/HHS/Education Appropriations Bill (H.R. 3043), I incorrectly voted no on the Pence Amendment. During the rapidity of voting on the series of 13 amendments to this bill, I mistakenly voted against Congressman PENCE's amendment that would

have prohibited funds in the bill from funding the Planned Parenthood Federation of America or any of its affiliates. It was my full intention to vote for this amendment, as I have been and continue to be a strong advocate of pro-life issues and legislation. My voting record makes it apparently clear that I have never wavered in my support of pro-life legislation. In closing, I fully support Congressman PENCE's amendment to H.R. 3043, and I will continue to vote in favor of pro-life legislation as I have done throughout my 14 years in Congress.

IN HONOR OF MR. MACEO SNIPES

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 24, 2007

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a forgotten soldier whose achievements mandate acknowledgement from this deliberative body. The Second Congressional District of Georgia is proud to call the late Maceo Snipes—a man of distinction—one of our own. In recognition of his service and tragic death, a memorial service was held in his honor on Saturday, July 21, 2007.

On March 28, 1909 Maceo Snipes was born to the late John and Lula Snipes in Taylor County, Georgia. At the age of 34, he enlisted into the U.S. Army, where he honorably fought in World War II.

Following his honorable discharge, he returned to Rupert, Georgia, where his courage continued to exemplify. Maceo Snipes made history in Taylor County, when he made a statement by voting in the 1946 primary election. In this process, he became the first African-American to vote in Taylor County since the Reconstruction.

Unfortunately the novelty actions of Mr. Snipes led others to bigotry. The next day Maceo Snipes was shot at his family home in Taylor County, Georgia. Three days following the brutal shooting, Maceo Snipes died in Atlanta, GA. The day was July 17, 1946. Although he died, his diligent spirit will continue to live in the memories of Georgians. For years to come, proponents of civil rights will look to his example for inspiration.

So on this 24th day of July, 2007, I with great honor commend Maceo Snipes for his service and bravery. Snipes is a credit to the ideal American, who devoted his life to his community and our country.

STOP THE BLAME GAME WITH REGARD TO CYPRUS

HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 24, 2007

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Madam Speaker, over the last week or so I have listened to a number of my colleagues come to the floor of this Chamber to lament the 1974 "invasion" of Cyprus. For many years the United States, the European Union and other members of the international community have worked together for a just and lasting solution to the vexing problem of Cyprus. That is why I am deeply

concerned when I hear some of my colleagues throwing barbs at the Turkish Cypriots and Turkey in an attempt to lay all the blame for this complicated issue at their doorstep. Because by distorting the facts, we are potentially undermining our good-faith, efforts to see this conflict resolved and to see peace and prosperity come to all the people of Cyprus.

The fact is that when the Island of Cyprus gained its independence from Great Britain in 1960, the Republic's constitution specifically defined a power-sharing arrangement which required a Greek Cypriot president and a Turkish Cypriot vice-president, each elected by their constituency.

The fact is that in 1963 Greek Cypriot President Makarios proposed sweeping constitutional modifications which heavily favored the Greek Cypriot community. The changes removed most of the checks and balances which had been built into the constitution to ensure the safety and equal status of the Turkish Cypriots. The inevitable result was a serious deterioration of relations between the two parties, which came to a head in December 1963, when armed Greek Cypriots attacked and killed many Turkish Cypriots who were unable to escape. The armed conflict spread quickly, with the Turkish Cypriots eventually being forced to withdraw into enclaves to defend themselves.

For the next 10 years, the campaign of the Greek Cypriots cost the Turkish Cypriots many lives and untold suffering, as well as their equal partnership status in the Cyprus government.

Former United States Undersecretary of State, George Ball, who, among others, was actively dealing with the crisis at the time, remarked in his memoirs entitled *The Past Has Another Pattern*, that Makarios has turned "this beautiful little island into his private abattoir" (p. 341). Ball went on to say that "Makarios' central interest was to block off Turkish intervention so that he and his Greek Cypriots could go on happily massacring the Turkish Cypriots" (p. 345).

The fact is that during the presidential elections of 1974, Archbishop of Cyprus Makarios—the Greek Cypriot leader at the time—escalated the crisis by embracing Enosis, or Union with Greece, as his election platform. Although Makarios won reelection he also created a power struggle between the military junta in control of mainland Greece and himself for the control over the Island. That power struggle culminated in a coup which forced Makarios to flee Cyprus and renewed ethnic cleansing of Turkish Cypriots.

In his address to the UN Security Council on July 19, 1974, Makarios himself described the coup as "a clear attack from the outside and a flagrant violation of the independence and sovereignty of the Republic of Cyprus".

The fact is that in the face of a bloody coup that not only threatened the independence of Cyprus but also resulted in renewed massacres of Turkish Cypriots, Turkey, which was treaty-bound to act as a Guarantor State, was compelled to undertake action on July 20, 1974. And the fact is that as a result of this legitimate and timely action, Turkish Cypriots were saved from imminent destruction, bloodshed among the Greek Cypriots was ended and the independence of Cyprus was protected.

The fact is that the Turkish intervention was legitimate and was internationally confirmed

by, among others, the Consultative Assembly of the Council of Europe (CACE). CACE resolution 573, dated July 29, 1974, clearly states, "Turkey exercised its right of intervention in accordance with Article IV of the Guarantee Treaty of 1960."

Unfortunately, since 1974, and in defiance of the rule of law and the established principle that federations can only be built on a foundation of equal partnership, the Greek Cypriot side continues to claim exclusive sovereignty over the entire Island. In 1983, this prompted the Turkish Cypriot side to assert its rights by proclaiming the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus (TRNC).

After many unsuccessful attempts at reconciliation, U.N.-led direct talks between the two sides began in early 2002. The talks sketched out a settlement—the Annan Plan—which was voted on in simultaneous referenda held on each side on April 24, 2004.

The fact is that Turkish Cypriots approved the Annan Plan by a clear and overwhelming majority of 65 percent but Greek Cypriots—under heavy pressure from the Greek Cypriot government—rejected it by an even larger majority of 76 percent. The Turkish Cypriots were internationally and rightly praised for their "courageous vote in favor of the proposals".

The Greek Cypriot side has since been trying to justify its rejection by claiming, among other things, that the plan "did not meet the interests of the country" and that "it did not provide for guarantees to ensure the complete implementation of commitments under the plan". However, impartial European Union diplomats, closely associated with the reconciliation effort, have gone so far as to say very undiplomatically, that the Greek Cypriot people had been "lied to" by the Greek Cypriot government as to the details of the Annan plan.

As public servants I think the members of this House understand that no compromise worth its salt ever fully meets all of the demands of either side, nor could it do so or it wouldn't be much of a compromise. The fact is that the Annan Plan was a carefully balanced compromise that certainly from the Turkish Cypriot perspective represented immense sacrifices on the part of the Turkish Cypriots, on such key issues as land, resettlement, property and security.

The Greek government and several former Greek government leaders fully supported the plan and the Turkish government was also pivotal in encouraging the Turkish Cypriots to approve the plan. In the end, the only people who were not willing to make the sacrifices necessary to bring peace to this troubled island where the Greek Cypriots—yet they were inexplicably rewarded membership to the EU; although some EU leaders have subsequently stated that doing so was a mistake.

The fact is that despite the Greek Cypriots' failure to embrace peace and the international community's failure to end the economic isolation of the Turkish Cypriots; Turkish Cypriots continue to seek a just and peaceful settlement to this crisis.

Most recently, Turkey and Turkish Cypriots have supported implementation of the July 8, 2006, United Nations-brokered agreement between Greek Cypriot leader Tassos Papadopoulos and Turkish Cypriot leader Mehmet Ali Talat relating to the reunification of Cyprus through a process of bi-communal discussions.

Some of my colleagues, particularly those who support House Resolution 405 (H. Res.

405), would have this House believe that Turkish Cypriots are unwilling to proceed with the July 8 agreement. But I would ask my colleagues this simple question; when offered the chance to vote for peace which side rejected peace, Turkish or Greek? The answer is Greek.

Under the circumstances it should make one wonder if Greek Cypriots, having already forestalled UN efforts to resolve the Cyprus issue—and been rewarded for it through EU membership—whether they truly feel under pressure to seek a just solution. The fact is that the status quo benefits Greek Cypriots significantly more than Turkish Cypriots and it seems to me that if either side has an incentive to delay implementation of the July 8 agreement; it would be the Greek Cypriots.

Madam Speaker, facts are stubborn things; and as the facts in this case clearly show, the crisis on Cyprus is significantly more complex than the "blame Turkey" special interest groups would like people to believe. It's time for these groups and their friends in Congress to end the "blame game" and get down to the real work of reshaping Cyprus into a Cyprus that respects human rights and the fundamental freedoms for all Cypriots.

TRIBUTE TO MRS. BARBARA SCRUGGS

HON. LYNN A. WESTMORELAND

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 24, 2007

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Madam Speaker, in June, my hometown of Grantville, GA, lost one of its treasures upon the death of Mrs. Barbara Scruggs, who was an activist, a public servant, a devoted wife and mother, a patron of the arts and an American patriot. She was 75.

Born in Pennsylvania, Barbara wasn't a Georgia native. She chose Georgia as her home and loved the state and Coweta County with the zeal of a convert.

After graduating from nursing school in 1954, Barbara eventually served her Nation as a nurse in the U.S. Air Force in 1957 and 1958. It was during that time that she fell in love with a fighter pilot named William Gordon Scruggs, whom she married in 1957. They eventually moved to Coweta County and raised three children together there.

Growing up in Pennsylvania, Barbara's parents had raised her as a Republican, but when she moved South, Georgia was conservative but it was a one-party state controlled at every level by Democrats. Barbara became a politically active Republican in Coweta County at a time when no one in Georgia had ever heard of such a thing. To paraphrase a country song, Barbara Scruggs was a Republican when being a Republican wasn't cool.

She always followed politics closely and got involved. She took leadership positions in the Coweta County Republican Party and the Coweta County Republican Women's Club, handling the latter's newsletter duties for many years. Prominent in the Georgia GOP—described as a volunteer always willing to do more than her share—she was selected as a delegate to the 2000 Republican National Convention, where she proudly donned patriotic attire and donated to future first lady Laura Bush's book drive for local libraries.

In 1984, she moved from activist to public servant. She ran for and won a seat on the Coweta County school board. As a board member for 12 years, Barbara saw the "big picture," said former Superintendent Bobby Welch, adding that she had a passion for improving opportunities for students, faculty and staff.

In Barbara's heart, politics had to share space with her love of art. She indulged this interest later in life, her husband said, as she found she had more free time. She became a big supporter of the Newnan-Coweta Art Association. In fact, she was attending a reception for an exhibition opening at the Centre for the Performing and Visual Arts on the night that she died. "She died, if you have to go, under perfect circumstances, doing the thing she loved so much," her husband told the Newnan Times-Herald.

Barbara Scruggs gave her all for her community. She'll be missed in Grantville and throughout Coweta County, but I consider this a personal loss as well. Throughout my career in elected office, I could always count on Barbara's support. My wife Joan and I have kept the Scruggs family in our thoughts and prayers this summer.

HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 24, 2007

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to express my concerns over the continuing human rights violations perpetrated by the International Law Enforcement Academy (ILEA) stationed in San Salvador, El Salvador. We cannot expect to promote stable democratic institutions in El Salvador by funneling military aid through ILEA to support local police forces engaging in repressive tactics.

Since President Clinton called for the establishment of the ILEA in 1995, the United States and participating nations have founded ILEAs in Hungary, Thailand, Botswana, El Salvador, and the United States. Through ILEA, the U.S. has continued to provide military aid, training, and arms sales to participating countries, which threatens to aggravate regional conflicts and sideline programs designed to halt human rights abuses.

The use of excessive force by police and security forces in El Salvador when targeting activists and their failure to protect workers rights to organize and bargain collectively has been at worse exacerbated and at best unchecked by ILEA's presence in the country. Furthermore, the government's failure to investigate human rights abuses calls into question the need for ILEA to provide security forces with more tools that can be used to repress those working toward a truly representative democracy in El Salvador.

Madam Speaker, the Congress must take a hard and serious look at whether we should continue funding ILEA. We should not support programs that claim to fight public corruption and provide opportunities for the global law enforcement community to share their expertise and training when, in fact, they further the oppression of social and labor activists and do nothing to end a country's human rights violations.

A TRIBUTE TO DOROTHY WASHINGTON

HON. MIKE MCINTYRE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 24, 2007

Mr. MCINTYRE. Madam Speaker, Mary McLeod Bethune once said, "We have a powerful potential in our youth, and we must have the courage to change old ideas and practices so that we may direct their power toward good ends." As one of the most influential African-American educators of our time, Mary McLeod Bethune knew this better than most, dedicating her life to the principle that learning is a lifelong process and as a result, knows no bounds in the difference it can make.

Another woman who dedicated her life to this principal was Dorothy Washington of Lumberton, North Carolina, who recently passed away.

Ms. Washington entered graduate school in 1947, a time when many African-American women were prohibited from attending universities and segregation in public schools was widespread. Despite these intimidating barriers, Ms. Washington remained steadfastly determined to pursue her dream of a higher education and became a role model for those in her community. She instilled this very same determination in every life she touched.

My wife recently attended Ms. Washington's funeral and was impressed by the number of people who expressed how Ms. Washington had touched their lives. Ms. Washington had touched my family's life during her retirement years, when she was kind enough to care for our two sons (who were toddlers at the time) so that we could participate in a weekly Bible study luncheon. She was always gracious, kind, patient, and understanding—ever ready to help. We were blessed by her kindness.

During her four decades teaching in Robeson County, Ms. Washington cared deeply for her students, sharing with them her passion for Greek and Roman mythological literature, often buying textbooks with money out of her own pocket. She had a genuine appreciation for the arts and humanities, serving as choir director and school librarian. Ms. Washington was determined to educate her students on the adventures that could be found outside the municipal lines of a small, rural town, while simultaneously cultivating an appreciation for the treasures that could be found in their own backyards.

She received her undergraduate degree from Saint Augustine College in Raleigh, North Carolina, and went on to earn her master's at the University of Michigan.

Madam Speaker, what an amazing place the world would be if we all had the influence of a Dorothy Washington in our lives! This small-town educator has left behind a deep legacy that spans generations and will surely continue for many years to come.

May God bless to our memories the work of Dorothy Washington and the lives she touched.

COMMENDING DAVID RAY RITCHESON AND RECOGNIZING HIS EFFORTS IN PROMOTING FEDERAL LEGISLATION TO COMBAT HATE CRIMES

SPEECH OF

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 23, 2007

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 535, Commending David Ray Ritcheson and his efforts in promoting legislation to combat hate crime.

David Ray Ritcheson was the victim of a horrific hate crime in Houston by white supremacists in April of 2006 because of his Mexican heritage.

He was brutally attacked with a metal pipe, burnt with cigarettes, had bleach poured on him, and was kicked with steel toed boots. His injuries from the attack were so severe that he underwent 30 surgeries and was scheduled for even more surgeries.

Miraculously, David was recovering from his injuries and eventually returned to school.

David wanted to move past his horrific experience, but he bravely came to Washington in April to testify before the House Judiciary Committee in support of H.R. 1592, the Local Law Enforcement Hate Crimes Prevention Act of 2007.

David's case was never tried as a hate crime. Due to Federal statutes and under Texas criminal law, first-degree felonies are exempt from hate crimes provisions.

In his testimony, David called upon the Congress to give local authorities the ability to federally prosecute hate crimes. He said "if these crimes cannot be prevented, the federal government must have the authority to support state and local bias crime prosecutions."

I strongly agree with David and his testimony helped the House pass H.R. 1592, the Local Law Enforcement Hate Crimes Prevention Act of 2007.

Unfortunately, earlier this month, David took his own life.

David deserves to be remembered for the hero that he was and honored for his hard work to combat hate crimes.

I support this bill which will honor David Ray Ritcheson and urge my colleagues to do the same.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DAVID DAVIS

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 24, 2007

Mr. DAVID DAVIS of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, due to my return from a trip on official business yesterday, July 23, 2007, I was not present to cast my votes on rollcall votes 687, 688, 689, and 690. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall 687, yea on rollcall 688, "yea" on rollcall 689, and "no" on rollcall 690.

TRIBUTE TO GRACE JAMES

HON. KEITH ELLISON

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 24, 2007

Mr. ELLISON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the life of Grace James of Minnesota, a tireless activist whose contribution to the North Side of Minneapolis cannot be overstated. Though it saddens me to report that Mrs. James passed away recently at the age of 93, I am humbled and inspired by the example she has set through her advocacy for the North Side, a neighborhood she endlessly fought to support, a community she tirelessly worked to build.

It is hard to think of a facet of community that Mrs. James didn't work to improve. During her career she served on numerous housing boards where she strived to ensure that everyone could find a place to live and that the North Side had open arms to those needing a home. Through organizations such as Minnesota Cooperative Housing and the North Side Residents Redevelopment Council, the work she began in the 1950s to this day helps to maintain and benefit the community she loved.

Mrs. James was also an activist in local education, working as a teacher's aide in the 1960s and as an organizer for the teachers union in the 1970s. Her work for North Side youth didn't stop at the schoolhouse doors, however; she once worked as a member of the board of the YWCA, supported the Campfire Girls, and served as the president of the Jack and Jill Club, introducing black children to cultural sites and events—and raising scholarship money along the way.

Part of what makes Mrs. James so remarkable, her example so admirable, is how she fought on a personal level. Her daughter Noel remembers that, outside of the councils and non-profits, the schools and unions, Mrs. James made the time to make sure neighborhood kids kept out of trouble. She defines what it is to fight at the grassroots level, leaving former Minneapolis City Councilwoman Jackie Cherryhomes to remark how "she believed in the power of community long before anyone talked about it."

In closing, Madam Speaker, I wish to express my condolences to those surviving Mrs. James: her daughters, her grandchildren, her great-grandchild, and the community she worked for, the community she loved. It is an honor to stand in recognition of the memory and life of such an illustrious woman as she. Mrs. James, thank you.

HONORING STEPHANIE HUNT, MRS.
UNITED STATES 2007

HON. JOHN D. DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 24, 2007

Mr. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and celebrate Stephanie Hunt of Pittsfield Township, Michigan. Mrs. Hunt was recently crowned Mrs. United States 2007.

Though winning the title of Mrs. United States is an intrinsically praiseworthy event, Mrs. Hunt's coronation is especially significant

for two reasons. Not only is she the first woman from Michigan to win in the pageant's 21-year history, but she is also the first African American to ever win the title. It is for these reasons that I want to call attention to this woman's remarkable accomplishments.

As a spokesperson for and executive committee member of the National Organization for Rare Diseases, Mrs. Hunt has been a tireless advocate for patients suffering from rare diseases. She is especially interested in raising awareness of Rubenstein-Taybi syndrome, a rare developmental disorder that afflicts her four-year-old son, Donnie. Winning the title of Mrs. United States has given Mrs. Hunt the opportunity to bring this and other diseases to national prominence.

Madam Speaker, I ask that all of my colleagues join me in commending Mrs. Hunt not only for winning Mrs. United States, but also for her advocacy on behalf of the 25 million Americans suffering from rare disorders. She serves as a role model for married women across the nation, "encouraging them to strive for their dreams throughout each season of life."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 24, 2007

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Madam Speaker, on rollcall Nos. 687, 688, 689 and 690, had I been present, I would have voted, "yea."

MINIMUM WAGE INCREASE

HON. TOM UDALL

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 24, 2007

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Madam Speaker, the last time Congress raised the minimum wage, gas prices hovered around \$1.33 a gallon, Enron wasn't even in business and America had never heard of the iPod, much less the iPhone. Since then, the cost of living has risen 26 percent, while the real value of the minimum wage has been eroded by inflation to its lowest level since 1955.

Thirteen million American workers will get a pay raise thanks to the minimum wage increase that begins today. That means an estimated six million children will see their parents' incomes rise, an increase of \$2.10 an hour that will give families an additional \$4,400 a year to meet critical needs. That's 15 months of groceries, over two years of health care, 19 months of utilities, or 20 months of child care.

I wish I could say it took great political courage to back this wage increase. However, it did not. More than 85 percent of Americans support raising the minimum wage. The American people have been ready; what was missing was the Congressional leadership. For more than nine years, the Republican-controlled Congress refused to raise the minimum wage. The new Democratic leadership raised it in just seven months. For four years, the old Congressional leadership let Pell Grant values

stagnate. Last week, Congress passed the biggest investment in college aid since the GI Bill. And for almost four years, Republicans in Congress gave President Bush a blank check to fight a misguided war in Iraq. Since January, Congress has told the President again and again that it's time for a change.

The new Congressional leadership has shown that it will do what the old Congressional leadership would not; it will fight for America's working families. Today's wage increase is just one sign of changed priorities in Washington. Congress has begun to deliver real support to those who need it most.

With all of the talk in Washington, we can lose track of what politics means in the everyday lives of Americans. Anybody who claims that it does not matter who controls Congress should go talk to a worker who just took home a larger paycheck. That larger paycheck was only possible because of a new Congressional leadership and a new Congress. I am proud to serve in that Congress.

TRIBUTE TO TOMMY "T.K." MARTIN

HON. TIMOTHY V. JOHNSON

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 24, 2007

Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois. Madam Speaker, today I stand before you to honor a fallen hero, Tommy "T.K." Martin. Tommy, who served as the Douglas County Sheriff Department's chief deputy, was shot in the line of duty last month while pursuing two men wanted for armed robbery. After a valiant month-long struggle, Tommy passed away early last week at the age of 59.

Our entire Nation is indebted to T.K. for his life-long dedication to his community and his country. He proudly served as a member of the Navy during the Vietnam War. After a committed tenure as a naval officer, he began his career with the Illinois State Police in 1978 and remained an important member of the crime scene investigation unit until his retirement in 2002. However, when he was offered the position of chief deputy in 2004, T.K. came out of retirement, as he could not resist the opportunity to continue his life of public service.

Last Tuesday, we lost an exceptional and venerable civil servant who was a role model for all law-enforcement officers with whom he interacted during his decades on the police force. T.K. put his life on the line each and every day to ensure the safety of the citizens of the 15th District of Illinois, and for that we will be forever grateful.

While T.K. was tragically taken from us all too early, his mark on our community and our Nation will continue for years to come. His colleagues and fellow citizens will never forget his work ethic, loyalty, devotion to God, and infectious sense of humor. Whether it was working in the CSI unit or participating in events at his beloved Tuscola United Church of Christ, T.K. touched all of those he came in contact with. He died doing what he loved most: protecting his community.

T.K., a grateful Nation thanks you for a lifetime of noble service. You are a hero and role model for all Americans. You will be sorely missed but your spirit will always remain with us.

NATIONAL UNDERGROUND RAILROAD NETWORK TO FREEDOM AMENDMENTS ACT OF 2007

SPEECH OF

HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 23, 2007

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 1239, the National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom Reauthorization Act of 2007.

Established in 1998, the Network to Freedom encompasses over 250 programs, sites, and partners in over 27 states and the District of Columbia, and is the only national program dedicated to the preservation, interpretation, and dissemination of Underground Railroad history.

Recent National Park Service financial projections, however, show the Network to Freedom budget reducing by 72 percent by the year 2011. Without continued and adequate funding, efforts to disseminate this critical history and build on the program's successes will be greatly diminished. H.R. 1239 will reauthorize the National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom Act by increasing funding to cover needed operations costs for the National Parks Service to carry out the provisions of the program, and by increasing the availability of grant funding to support Underground Railroad preservation and interpretative projects throughout the United States.

With nine Network to Freedom sites throughout Delaware and reports that more passengers came through Wilmington on the Underground Railroad than any other place, this program has a real local significance. Underground Railroad stations were operated by a few very effective people throughout Delaware in Blackbird, Camden, Middletown, New Castle, Hockessin and Wilmington. Thomas Garrett, for example, is known as Delaware's greatest station master. Spending the greater part of his lifetime working in the Underground Railroad, Thomas Garrett is credited with helping 2,700 slaves reach freedom.

By playing a critical role in helping local communities to effectively share the stories of the men and women who resisted slavery through escape and flight in the Underground Railroad, this program highlights the rich history of Delaware and many other states and is an asset to our National Parks System. I believe strongly in promoting programs and partnerships to commemorate this time in history and educating the public about the historical significance of the Underground Railroad.

I encourage my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to join me in supporting passage of H.R. 1239.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. YVETTE D. CLARKE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 24, 2007

Ms. CLARKE. Madam Speaker, on rollcall No. 687, I was on a leave of absence. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea".

On rollcall No. 688, I was on a leave of absence. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea".

On rollcall No. 689, I was on a leave of absence. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea".

On rollcall No. 690, I was on a leave of absence. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea".

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. GEOFF DAVIS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 24, 2007

Mr. DAVIS of Kentucky. Madam Speaker, on Monday, July 23, 2007, I was absent from the House to attend the State of Northern Kentucky address.

Had I been present I would have voted:

On Rollcall No. 687—"yes"—H.R. 404, Federal Customer Service Enhancement Act.

On Rollcall No. 688—"yes"—H. Res. 553, Mourning the passing of former First Lady Lady Bird Johnson, and celebrating her life and contributions to the people of the United States.

On Rollcall No. 689—"yes"—H. Res. 519—Honoring the life and accomplishments of renowned artist Tom Lea on the 100th anniversary of his birth.

On Rollcall No. 690—"no"—Previous Question on H. Res. 558 (Rule for H.R. 3074).

MOURNING THE PASSING OF FORMER FIRST LADY, LADY BIRD JOHNSON

SPEECH OF

HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 23, 2007

Mr. ORTIZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to one of America's truly great First Ladies, Lady Bird Johnson, who taught all of us to appreciate the everyday beauty in nature . . . and who made it her life's work to spread that beauty to all corners of our Nation.

Lady Bird Johnson was very much the essence of a lady, so much so that it was literally her name. She brought grace and light to the State of Texas and to Washington, DC. She was a partner to President Lyndon Johnson in their home on the campaign trail, and in the White House.

She softened the sometimes harsh edges of President Johnson, who came to office in the midst of great turmoil in our Nation. It was the age of escalation in Vietnam, deep fears about the Soviet aggression around the world, great angst over civil rights in this Nation, and both peaceful and violent demonstrations around the Nation.

In the midst of that agonizing dynamic, Lady Bird made things around her prettier. . . and she brought light and beauty to Washington, DC, to politics, and to our Nation.

Recently, she was so proud that the Department of Education now bears the name of her beloved LBJ to illustrate their mutual dedication to education.

She was our Nation's first environmentalist, understanding that the aesthetic look of our Nation mean much to our citizens—and the survival of the human race would depend on our care for this planet.

Today, global warming has moved the environmental cause to a higher priority for governments and activists, but the matriarch of the movement was no less than President Johnson's and the Nation's First Lady, Lady Bird Johnson. She loved nature and understood the relationship of Mother Earth to the long term health of humanity.

Mr. Speaker, Lady Bird Johnson very much appreciated that you lead this House of Congress and occupy the seat that is third in line for the presidency. She deeply understood the importance of this government reflecting all our people.

Her legacy will live on in their beautiful family . . . in the flowers and beauty of the many parks that were inspired by her all over the Nation . . . and in the environmental movement that inspires us all to be better stewards of Mother Earth.

HONORING SCOTT C. STEVENS

HON. THOMAS G. TANCREDO

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 24, 2007

Mr. TANCREDO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the commitment and patriotism of Mr. Scott Craig Stevens of Larkspur, Colorado, who will become an officer in the United States Marine Corps following his graduation from Officer Candidate School in August.

Since 1891, officer training at Quantico, Virginia has successfully developed and molded America's young men and women into individuals of character; providing them with the physical, mental, and leadership qualities necessary to uphold and defend the virtue of liberty here in America and around the world. After thorough preparation, Mr. Stevens is now qualified and ready to command his fellow brothers and sisters at arms.

Madam Speaker, I am honored to represent Mr. Stevens who has committed himself to our freedom. I urge you and my fellow colleagues to join me in congratulating Mr. Stevens and wishing him the best in the years to come.

HONORING AMY ZIGLER

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 24, 2007

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Amy Zigler, of Santa Rosa, CA, who exemplifies the dedication of many teachers in our Nation, teachers who put in countless hours to secure the best educational opportunities for their students.

Amy Zigler led the effort at Windsor High School to obtain a competitive grant—one of only 130 awarded nationwide—to utilize technology in mathematics classrooms. With a team of five teachers, Amy helped secure \$35,000 from Hewlett-Packard to train teachers in integration of new technology and to purchase equipment that will enable them to record class lessons and create Power Points for students' home use. Students will also be able to review lessons in detail on-line, which will be particularly helpful to those who have missed class.

Windsor High School will receive almost \$300,000 in additional school funding due to efforts of teachers and officials dedicated to securing resources for their students. Other grants will assist the school in developing a pre-med core health program, digital design classes, and a vineyard academy as well as work on sustainable energy.

Madam Speaker, we are fortunate to have teachers like Amy in our schools. She understands that our children are our most important resource for the future, and we must do all we can to provide them with the best opportunities. I am proud to honor Amy Zigler and all the teachers who make our country a better place.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 24, 2007

Mr. HIGGINS. Madam Speaker, I missed several rollcall votes on Monday, July 23, 2007 and Tuesday, July 24, 2007. I would like to enter into the record how I intended to vote on these rollcall votes:

On Roll No. 687, On the Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass H.R. 404; the Federal Customer Service Enhancement Act, I would have voted "yea."

On Roll No. 688, On the Motion to Suspend the Rules and Agree to H. Res. 553, I would have voted "yea."

On Roll No. 689, On the Motion to Suspend the Rules and Agree to H. Res. 519, I would have voted "yea."

On Roll No. 690, On Ordering the Previous Question on H. Res. 558, I would have voted "yea."

On Roll No. 691, On agreeing to the Mica amendment, I would have voted "no."

On Roll No. 692, On agreeing to the Bachmann amendment, I would have voted "no."

On Roll No. 693, On agreeing to the Flake amendment, I would have voted "no."

On Roll No. 694, On agreeing to the Flake amendment, I would have voted "no."

On Roll No. 695, On agreeing to the Chabot amendment, I would have voted "no."

On Roll No. 696, On agreeing to the Westmoreland amendment, I would have voted "no."

On Roll No. 697, On agreeing to the Sessions amendment, I would have voted "no."

On Roll No. 698, On agreeing to the Flake amendment, I would have voted "no."

On Roll No. 699, On agreeing to the Flake amendment, I would have voted "no."

On Roll No. 700, On agreeing to the Flake amendment, I would have voted "no."

On Roll No. 701, On agreeing to the Flake amendment, I would have voted "no."

On Roll No. 702, On agreeing to the Flake amendment, I would have voted "no."

On Roll No. 703, On agreeing to the Hastings amendment, I would have voted "aye."

On Roll No. 704, On agreeing to the Frelinghuysen amendment, I would have voted "no."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LUIS V. GUTIERREZ

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 24, 2007

Mr. GUTIERREZ. Madam Speaker, I was unavoidably absent from this chamber yesterday. I would like the record to show that, had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall votes 687, 688, 689 and 690.

COMMIT TO FULLY FUND RESEARCH

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 24, 2007

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I want to clarify a statement from my earlier remarks regarding life expectancy in the United States versus other nations. Cuba does not rank ahead of the United States in life expectancy. A person born in the U.S. can expect to live 78 years and those born in Cuba 77.08 years. Cuba's life expectancy rates are comparable to rates for the United States despite the fact that their spending on healthcare, per capita, is less than \$50 and the United States' spending per capita is almost \$7000.

We also have a comparable ranking on World Health Organization's list for over all health, with the U.S. ranked 37th and Cuba ranked 39th.

We spend more money on healthcare than any other nation in the world and yet the United States ranks 23rd in infant mortality among industrialized nations, behind nations like Germany, Canada and Cuba.

We used to be first in life expectancy in 1945, now, according to the Central Intelligence Agencies World Fact Book, we rank 45th. We must act to reverse this downward slide in the health of our Nation and the most vital step is to revitalize our commitment to universal access to healthcare, primary care and a healthcare home for every single person in America.

RECOGNITION OF ACTING DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF THE US-VISIT PROGRAM, P.T. WRIGHT

HON. LAMAR SMITH

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 24, 2007

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize a talented leader and individual, Mr. P.T. Wright. P.T., who currently serves as Acting Deputy Director of the United States Visitor and Immigrant Status Indicator Technology (US-VISIT) program, is retiring from the Federal government after 34 years of distinguished service.

Since P.T. began his career with the former U.S. Customs Service in 1973, he has served with distinction in a number of key positions at the Departments of the Treasury and Homeland Security. In his management roles with U.S. Customs and Border Protection in Dallas/Fort Worth, Texas; El Paso, Texas; Nogales,

Arizona; and Washington, DC, P.T. was intricately involved in the development of customs policies for cargo examination and processing, drug interdiction and traveler processing.

Most recently, P.T. brought his track record of outstanding leadership to the Department of Homeland Security's US-VISIT program. The program benefited from his oversight and management of day-to-day operations.

P.T.'s familiarity with the communities surrounding our land borders has been a tremendous asset to US-VISIT. P.T. understood that active engagement with border stakeholders was critical in creating a foundation of trust and support upon which to build positive long-term relationships. He tirelessly traveled Southwest border communities to inform and educate border constituents about border management developments and initiatives. As a result of his in-depth knowledge of the land border environment and his ability to speak with clarity and conviction, P.T. earned the affection of border community leaders and gained instant credibility. And when P.T. returned to Washington, he took what he heard from border constituents and helped make real, on-the-ground improvements to US-VISIT.

While not yet completed, US-VISIT is now the world's most innovative and integrated biometrics program. This is in no small part due to leaders like P.T. Wherever he went, P.T. spread the message that biometrics are a powerful tool to improve the integrity of our immigration and border management system, to make us safer, and to facilitate legitimate travel and trade. I have no doubt that US-VISIT is on a path to continue to drive the innovative use of biometrics for identity management. P.T. deserves a great deal of credit for that success.

Mr. Wright's accomplishments and leadership were recognized last year with the prestigious Presidential Rank Award for Meritorious Executive for his extraordinary contributions to our Nation's welfare and security over the course of a U.S. border management career spanning 34 years.

P.T. Wright is beloved within the US-VISIT program and around the many federal agencies that have worked with him. All who have had the opportunity to work with P.T. are better off for the experience. His candor and infectious sense of humor will be missed, but we are grateful for his long service and many contributions.

Madam Speaker, I urge that my colleagues join me in honoring P.T. Wright for his exceptional achievements and his commitment to excellence. P.T. has been an outstanding ambassador for US-VISIT. I commend P.T. for his service to the United States and I offer him best wishes in all of his future endeavors.

RECOGNITION OF GENEROUS CITIZENS

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 24, 2007

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, today I rise in acknowledgment of the extreme generosity of some of my constituents. I wish to recognize the kindness of Marble Rock Unit 387 of the American Legion Auxiliary, from Marble Rock, Iowa.

Recently, Gabrielle Wedeking of Marble Rock was born with a rare disorder of the immune system and required a bone marrow transplant. Marble Rock Unit 287 held a benefit that included a meal, bake sale, raffles, as well as silent and live auctions. Over \$44,000 was raised to help fund Gabrielle's transplant.

This generous and selfless act deserves honoring, and thus I stand today and recognize Marble Rock Unit 387.

HONORING LIEUTENANT SARA
PLATT MOSER'S SERVICE TO
THE UNITED STATES COAST
GUARD

HON. HOWARD COBLE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 24, 2007

Mr. COBLE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Lieutenant Sara Platt Moser for her service to the United States House of Representatives and the United States Coast Guard.

As some of you may know, Lieutenant Moser was detailed to the House Coast Guard Liaison office July of 2004, and I am proud to have had the opportunity to work closely with her over the past three years. My colleagues, staff, and I have valued her knowledge and understanding of the Coast Guard operational missions, day to day challenges, and roles and responsibilities.

During her career in the Coast Guard, Lieutenant Moser has served aboard the CG Cutter RELIANCE and as the Assistant Operations Officer at Coast Guard Group Saint Petersburg.

Next week, Lieutenant Moser will leave her post as the Coast Guard's Assistant House Liaison in pursuit of a new assignment within the Coast Guard Reserve.

It has been my pleasure to work with Lieutenant Moser. On behalf of the Representatives and staff who have also been fortunate enough to work with Sara, I wish her, her husband Marty and their daughter Anna, clear skies and smooth sailing.

CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF
SERVICE AT MELEAR'S BARBECUE

HON. LYNN A. WESTMORELAND

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 24, 2007

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Mr. Speaker, the Representatives in these hallowed halls of Congress come from every corner of the United States, and our pallets and diets are as varied as our accents.

When I say "barbecue" here in Washington that means something totally different to people from different parts of this country. In Texas, barbecue is beef. To others, barbecue is pretty much anything cooked on a grill. But in my home State of Georgia and in surrounding southern States, barbecue means only one thing: pit-cooked pork.

Americans concerned about the "McDonald's-ization" of this Nation need only come down South for some fine barbecue cuisine. While pork is always at the base of southern

barbecue, the secret is in the sauce and in the sides. Drive a hundred-mile radius from any barbecue joint in the South and the meal and preparation will probably be totally different. In parts of the Carolinas, you're more likely to get mustard-based sauce while pretty much throughout Georgia the sauce of choice is vinegar-based. In east Georgia, your side might be hash and rice; in west Georgia where I live, you'll probably get a side of Brunswick stew.

One thing that's always the same: No matter where you go in the South, the locals think their brand of barbecue beats out the rest.

Residents of Fayette County in Georgia's Third Congressional District have dined on pork barbecue and Brunswick stew and sweet tea at Melear's Barbecue for 50 years this month. Restaurants make their profits pennies on the plate and they have to sell a lot of plates to stay in business. The majority of eateries go out of business within 2 years of opening. To survive for 25 times that long testifies to the Melear family's good business sense, yes, but also to their good barbecue.

The fine Southern cuisine isn't Melear's only draw; it's also a neighborhood gathering spot for the people of Fayetteville. It's where local city council members, county commissioners and sheriff's deputies meet up to plot plans, and it's where aspiring politicians running statewide in Georgia head to shake hands with the community's leaders.

Melear's is a special barbecue restaurant in that it's open for breakfast, lunch and dinner. I confess that as a longtime homebuilder in Fayette County, there was a time when I started every day off right with a heaping breakfast served up by Kenny Melear.

The people of Fayette County and I personally am thankful for 50 years of fine meals and good company at Melear's. I congratulate Kenny and his family for a half-century of success and send best wishes for a half-century more. And with those best wishes, I'd like a barbecue plate with Brunswick stew and a big glass of sweet tea.

HONORING THE LIFE OF DOROTHEA
TOWLES CHURCH, FASHION
MODEL AND DESIGNER

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 24, 2007

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, I would like to recognize, honor, and pay tribute to the significant, groundbreaking achievements of the talented Dorothea Towles Church, who overcame the many obstacles placed in her way to become the first successful black fashion model. She was the seventh of eight children, born on July 26, 1922 in Texarkana, Texas. She began her college education at Wiley College in Marshall, Texas, majoring in biology. However, after moving to Los Angeles to live with her wealthy uncle after the death of her mother, she transferred to the University of Southern California and received a master's degree in education. While present in Los Angeles, she began to generate an interest in acting but was discouraged by the lack of black actors in the entertainment industry. Instead, she became a model for black magazines and fashion shows in the area.

Dorothea Church's unprecedented success came at the young age of twenty-seven when

she was vacationing in Paris to listen to her sister, Lois Towles, sing with Fisk University. Church's great beauty and striking presence were extraordinary. Her beauty and talent were indisputable and she made a breakthrough in the most famous and prestigious fashion market in the world when she was signed by Christian Dior as a high-fashion model. For the first time in her life, Church was not impacted by racial intolerance. Church once stated, "If you're beautiful, [the French] don't care what color you are."

Even though many racial barriers were overcome, Church still had to deal with the innate prejudices that many people had towards African-Americans. Church had been forbidden to model and display high fashioned pictures in predominantly black magazines. The industry's excuse was that it was meaningless to display such photographs because the black community was not interested in the clothing. Or perhaps they didn't believe the black community could afford such clothing. Either way, Church used her power and prestige and was able to open the door for other aspiring black models by extending her appearances in the white fashion magazines to appear in a newly founded black owned Ebony magazine.

Dorothea Towles Church, the gorgeous and influential fashion model, couture designer, and black activist, bridged a divide between the races in high-fashion that appeared to be insurmountable. Church was an inspiration to all African-Americans who ever had an impossible dream. After her death from heart and kidney disease on July 7, 2006, there has been a renewed appreciation of Church's triumphs and accomplishments. She was, and continues to be a perpetual role model who brought pride to her people and community and who continues to serve as an important role model to young women with dreams today.

[From the New York Times, July 23, 2007]

OBITUARIES: DOROTHEA TOWLES CHURCH,
BLACK MODEL IN 1950'S PARIS

(By Eric Wilson)

NEW YORK.—Dorothea Towles Church, the first successful black model in Paris, who discovered personal liberation on the runways of Christian Dior and Elsa Schiaparelli in the 1950s, died July 7 in Manhattan. She was 83.

Her death was confirmed by Michael Henry Adams, a curator at the Museum of the City of New York, where she is among those to be featured in an exhibition called "Black Style Now," which will open Sept. 7.

Church's success was historic in an industry that had resisted using any but white models to represent beauty on magazine covers, in advertisements and on runways. Church was responsible for breaking down some of those barriers and was revered in France during the five years she modeled there.

"If you're beautiful, they don't care what color you are," she said of the French in postwar Paris.

"I got invited out all the time," she said in Barbara Summers's 1998 book "Black and Beautiful." "I was the only black model in Europe and I just thought I was an international person."

Her easy acceptance in Paris was reported at home in black publications, in articles about the designers she knew and about how she once dyed her hair platinum at Dior's request.

But her growing fame did not eliminate prejudice on the part of some designers. At

Schiaparelli, she once overheard someone describe her as Tahitian. While she worked for Pierre Balmain, she recalled, he would not allow her to borrow dresses for a photograph for *Ebony* magazine, fearing that would offend his white clientele. She took the clothes later on the pretext that she would wear them to a party, and the magazine then photographed them.

HONORING REV. DR. JAMES
ADAMS SPAHR

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 24, 2007

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Rev. Dr. Jane Adams Spahr, a Presbyterian minister committed to justice for the lesbian, gay, bisexual and trans gender community.

A self-described lesbian and feminist, Janie is retiring after 33 years.

Born in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, with her twin sister Joanie to Chet and Susanna Adams, Janie was ordained a Presbyterian Minister in December 1974, to the Hazelwood Presbyterian Church in Pittsburgh. From 1975–1979 she served as Assistant Pastor of First Presbyterian in San Rafael, California, and in 1979–1980 was the Executive Director of Oakland Council of Presbyterian Churches where she was encouraged to resign after coming out as a lesbian.

Janie began her “out” liberation work with and for LGBT people as the Minister of Pastoral Care in the Castro area of Metropolitan Community Church in San Francisco from 1980–1982. In 1982, this “lesbyterian” founded the Ministry of Light, which later became the Spectrum Center for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Concerns. She served for 10 years as the Executive Director of Spectrum.

In 1991, Rev. Spahr was called to serve as a co-pastor at the Downtown United Presbyterian Church in Rochester, New York, marking the first time a Presbyterian Church had chosen an “out” pastor. The call, however, was challenged, and the Judicial Commission of the Presbyterian Church refused to allow Rev. Spahr to assume the coposition. In response to the ruling Janie was hired by The Downtown United Presbyterian Church and the Westminster Presbyterian Church in Tiburon, California, who formed the “That All May Freely Serve” project. She was employed to work within the denomination to end discrimination and increase inclusiveness for all people.

In 2006, Rev. Spahr made national headlines when the Commission of the Presbytery of the Redwoods ruled she acted within her “right of conscience” as a Christian when she performed commitment ceremonies for two lesbian couples. The Presbyterian Church’s highest court ruled in 2000 that ministers could “bless” same-sex unions but not preside over them or call them marriages. Janie challenged the church’s constitution and won a victory for justice and inclusion, but the battle is not yet over as the Prosecuting Committee has filed an appeal.

During her undergraduate years at Penn State, Jane met Jim Spahr whom she later married and had two sons, Jim and Chet. Jim

now fondly refers to Janie as his “wife emerita” and the “sister-in-love” of Jackie Spahr (Jim’s partner) and Bill Fenton (her sister Joanie’s partner).

Madam Speaker, it is my pleasure to honor Rev. Dr. Jane Adams Spahr whose courageous passion for justice and inclusion for LGBT people has left a legacy that is paving the way to a better future. Rev. Spahr has touched so many lives as a minister, and though she is retiring she will remain a mentor and role model to all.

LIFT UNREASONABLE RESTRICTIONS ON TAIWAN’S ELECTED LEADERS

HON. DAVID WU

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 24, 2007

Mr. WU. Madam Speaker, in November of 2008, citizens of the United States will exercise their constitutional and democratic right to vote in a national election and choose their president. Just eight months prior to our presidential election, our friend across the Pacific, Taiwan, will hold its fourth national direct election for its highest office.

Once a single-party state under martial law, Taiwan made a peaceful transition during the late 1980s and early 1990s to a full-fledged democracy and a multi-party political system that respects human rights and the rule of law.

For over fifty years, our two nations have fostered a close relationship, which has been of mutual political, economic, cultural, and strategic advantage. However, one vital inequity exists that prevents the exchange of views at the highest political levels: the United States government continues to adhere to guidelines from the 1970s that bar the President, Vice President, Premier, Foreign Minister, and Defense Minister of Taiwan from coming to Washington, DC.

Why, when Taiwan is a key player in the Asia-Pacific region, do we prevent their highest-level decision makers from traveling to our nation’s capital? This outdated policy severely limits our direct dialogue with world leaders.

Almost any person born and raised in Taiwan has the freedom to travel to the United States. But when a person is chosen through democratic elections to become the leader of the Taiwanese people, this freedom is inappropriately rescinded by the U.S. government. While the United States attempts to promote democracy around the world, we lock the doors of our capital city to the leaders of fellow democracy.

Rather than symbolically shunning Taiwan’s democratically elected leaders, we should welcome them. I meet with Taiwan’s leaders—both before and after their election. Other American Leaders in Washington, D.C. should have the same opportunity. Unreasonable restrictions on visits to the United States by high-level elected and appointed officials of Taiwan should be lifted. Taiwan deserves this long overdue respect.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JIM JORDAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 24, 2007

Mr. JORDAN of Ohio. Madam Speaker, I was returning from an official delegation trip to Iraq yesterday, and was therefore absent from the Floor during the four rollcall votes that took place on Monday night.

Had I been present, I would have voted in favor of H.R. 404 (the Federal Customer Service Enhancement Act), H. Res. 553 (Mourning the Passing of Lady Bird Johnson), and H. Res. 519 (Honoring the Life and Accomplishments of Tom Lea). I would have voted against ordering the previous question on H. Res. 558 (the rule providing for consideration of H.R. 3074).

STAR-SPANGLED BANNER
NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 23, 2007

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 1388, the Star-Spangled Banner National Historic Trail Act. This bill aims to amend the National Trails System Act to designate the Star-Spangled Banner Trail in the States of Maryland and Virginia, as well as through the District of Columbia.

I would first like to begin by commending my distinguished colleague and the representative of Maryland’s 3rd Congressional District, Congressman JOHN P. SARBANES on his work with this very important piece of legislation. As with most national historic trails, its purpose and significance must be examined for its unique characteristics. I applaud the gentleman for his work in aiming to protect and preserve our Nation’s trails.

A national historic trail is an extended trail that follows routes of travel that are typically of historic and national significance. The Star-Spangled Banner National Historic Trail consists of water and overland routes totaling approximately 290 miles extending from southern Maryland through the District of Columbia and Virginia, and north of Baltimore, Maryland, commemorating the Chesapeake Campaign of the War of 1812, as generally depicted on the maps.

A national historic trail ought to be significant with respect to several facets of American history, ranging from trade and commerce, exploration, migration and settlement, or military campaigns and must have significant potential for public recreational or historic use. The trail ought to be continuous and might include land, water or marked highway segments. The Star-Spangled Banner National Historic Trail land routes would follow existing public roads, along which British and American troops traveled.

Mr. Speaker, this bill would mandate the administration of this trail by the Secretary of the Interior. The Secretary ought to encourage public participation by communities, owners of land along the trail, and volunteer trail groups

with the administering, planning, development and maintenance of the trail. Any land or interest in land outside the exterior boundaries of any federally administered area would be prohibited, unless with prior consent from the owner of the land or interest in land. It would be the responsibility of the Secretary to authorize and provide interpretive programs and services, and technical assistance to State and local government and non-profit organizations.

Mr. Speaker, the primary focus of this initiative has been providing conservation and enjoyment of, public access to, and interpretation of the historic route and its resources. Historians and regional trail groups have recognized the importance of the untold stories and legacy of the events of the Chesapeake Campaign and the need for protection and interpretation of related historical resources.

H.R. 1388 commemorates the events leading up to the writing of "The Star-Spangled Banner" during the Chesapeake Campaign of the War of 1812. Along these trails are the bedrock of many events of historical significance—British invasion of Maryland, the Battle of Bladensburg, the burning of the White House, the Capitol and Washington Navy Yard, as well as the Battle for Baltimore (1814). The route of the invasion is known and documented, and the proposed trail would follow it as closely as possible.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support, as well as to encourage my colleagues to join Representative SARBANES in amending the National Trails Systems Act to designate the Star-Spangled Banner Trail in the States of Maryland and Virginia and the District of Columbia as a National Historic Trail. Visitors to this region ought to enjoy the opportunity to envision and experience this great piece of American history—the heritage and struggles that ensued during the War of 1812. The Star-Spangled Banner National Historic Trail Act would give recognition to the patriots whose determination to stand firm against enemy invasion and bombardment preserved this liberty for future generations of Americans.

INTRODUCTION OF THE PATH TO SUCCESS: GANG PREVENTION THROUGH COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS ACT

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 24, 2007

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Path to Success Act.

This important piece of legislation addresses a pressing social dilemma that has permeated American society, successfully wreaking havoc, fear, and violence indiscriminately in urban and rural communities alike. Gang-re-

lated offenses have peaked to astronomical numbers, making youth gangs an endemic feature of American life. Most of these gang members are engulfed in a cyclical culture of poverty, illiteracy, and homelessness which contribute to excessive recidivism rates. Youths who are particularly vulnerable for recruitment are quickly indoctrinated into lawlessness.

The bill I am introducing today authorizes the Secretary of Education to award \$20 million in grants to community colleges that agree to enter into and maintain partnerships with juvenile detention centers by providing juvenile ex-offenders with a supportive learning environment where they can attain marketable skills and credentials needed for their constructive re-entry into society. Under the bill, each community college will be encouraged to grant academic merit to eligible participants based on their distinctive academic backgrounds, learning curves, and concentration interests.

Under this bill, community colleges who apply for these grants will be responsible for facilitating the academic, psychological, and social adjustment of juvenile ex-offenders who were detained for gang related offenses. These community colleges will serve as hubs for networks among local organizations that are committed to assisting youthful offenders' successful reintegration into society.

With these grants, community colleges can work with different partners to employ intervention strategies to divert at-risk youth from crime by providing counseling, academic or vocational training, and professional development to eligible participants enrolled in the program. In fact, this legislation requires that community colleges partner with both public and private entities to facilitate internships, apprenticeships, and permanent employment opportunities for eligible participants. This feature of the outreach effort is especially relevant to ensure recidivism prevention.

At this juncture, we must set precedence on determining pragmatic measures that will mitigate gang violence. Gang violence presents an intricate challenge to communities around the United States, especially in areas where there is significant socio-economic duress. Ultimately, no one can cite the one definitive cause of community violence, poverty, neighborhood deterioration, or why Johnny cannot read. These types of contemporary problems have increasingly become more qualitatively complex.

This is exactly why we cannot afford to adopt parochial methods to mitigate juvenile delinquency. Since it is virtually impossible for one agency to unilaterally solve intractable problems, every worthwhile effort requires collaboration and partnering among organizations to resolve the issue we see before us in this day and age.

Education gives people hope and self-respect; it shows them that they can succeed by lawful means. The academic and vocational training is a critical component of this program

especially since research has shown that the typical habitual offender is a person of little or no education.

Madam Speaker, approximately 100,000 juveniles (ages 17 years and under) leave juvenile correctional facilities, State prison, or Federal prison each year. Juveniles released from secure confinement have a recidivism rate ranging from 55 to 75 percent. Even more, research has shown that the likelihood that young people will successfully transition into society increases with effective reentry and aftercare programs.

Taking a comprehensive approach is the only pragmatic solution to stopping the spread of gang violence. By promoting communal networks, this legislation provides opportunities for the community to be instrumental in administering programs designed to reduce recidivism among ex-gang offenders, and deter gang violence and membership among other at risk youths.

Juvenile delinquency is a complex phenomenon that has riveting effects. I firmly believe that this legislation will make significant progress in our battle against gang violence because it fully incorporates the community in the implementation process.

Madam Speaker, it takes a network to fight a network. In order to provide a realistic, individualized, and creative response to public problems, we must design the right network. This legislation offers guidelines to determine and develop appropriate activation tools to respond to gang violence. I hope this bill would receive the bipartisan support that it deserves. I ask for my colleagues' support and urge the swift consideration of this bill.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 24, 2007

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, because of traveling back to the States from Iraq, I missed the following votes:

(1) H.R. 404—Federal Customer Service Enhancement Act (15 minutes)—"no."

(2) H. Res. 553—Mourning the passing of former First Lady, Lady Bird Johnson, and celebrating her life and contributions to the people of the United States (5 minutes)—"yes."

(3) H. Res. 519—Honoring the life and accomplishments of renowned artist Tom Lea on the 100th anniversary of his birth (5 minutes)—"yes."

(4) Previous Question—Rule for H.R. 3074—Transportation-HUD Appropriations (5 minutes)—"no."

(5) Adoption of the Rule for H.R. 3074—Transportation-HUD Appropriations (5 minutes)—"no."